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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/893,316	06/26/2001	Timothy J. Reardon	291958161US1	2811
25096	7590	12/30/2005		
PERKINS COIE LLP PATENT-SEA P.O. BOX 1247 SEATTLE, WA 98111-1247			EXAMINER KOCH, GEORGE R	
			ART UNIT 1734	PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 12/30/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/893,316

Applicant(s)

REARDON ET AL.

Examiner

George R. Koch III

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 October 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☒ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 54-107 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 103 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 54-102 and 104-107 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

### DETAILED ACTION

1. This application is in condition for allowance except for the following formal matters:

- a. Claim 104 is directed to an invention non-elected and should be cancelled.
- b. The first line of the specification should be updated to reflect that application serial no. 09/575,965 is now U.S. Patent No. 6,375,741
- c. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: The first line of the specification, setting forth the parent applications, appears to be incorrect. US Patent 5,235,995 appears to be a continuation or continuation in part of applications not referenced in the first line.

The "Cross Reference to Related Applications" section on the front page of US Patent 5,235,995 (application 09/665,942) recites as below:

#### CROSS REFERENCES TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This is a continuation-in-part of copending U.S. patent application Ser. No. 07/526,052, filed May 21, 1990, entitled "Aqueous Hydrofluoric Acid Vapor Etching of Semiconductor Wafers". Ser. No. 07/526,052 was a continuation-in-part of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 07/524,239, filed May 15, 1990, entitled "Aqueous Hydrofluoric Acid Vapor Etching of Semiconductor Wafers" (now abandoned).

This is also a continuation-in-part of copending U.S. patent application Ser. No. 07/526,057, filed May 21, 1990, entitled "Aqueous Hydrofluoric and Hydrochloric Acid Vapor Processing of Semiconductor Wafers".

This is also a continuation-in-part of copending U.S. patent application Ser. No. 07/328,888, filed Mar. 27, 1989, entitled "Single Wafer Processor".

This is further a continuation-in-part of copending U.S. patent application Ser. No. 07/526,243, filed May 18, 1990, entitled "Single Wafer Processor Apparatus".

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This is still further a continuation-in-part of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 07/464,101, filed Jan. 12, 1990, entitled "Low Contamination Blending and Metering Systems for Semiconductor Processing".

Priority is claimed based upon the above applications which are also hereby incorporated by reference.

The current continuation history in the specification omits any reference to the following five applications: (1) 07/464,101; (2) 07/328,888; (3) 07/526,057; (4) 07/524,239; and (5) 07/526,052.

Prosecution on the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for reply to this action is set to expire **TWO MONTHS** from the mailing date of this letter.

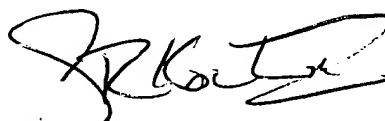
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to George R. Koch III whose telephone number is (571) 272-1230 (TDD only). If the applicant cannot make a direct TDD-to-TDD call, the applicant can communicate by calling the Federal Relay Service at 1-866-377-8642 and giving the operator the above TDD number. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christopher Fiorilla can be reached on (571) 272-1187. The fax phone

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number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



George R. Koch III  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 1734

GRK  
12/26/2005